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ABSTRACT

Limericks and tongue twisters for learning short vowel sounds in English are presented in this illustrated booklet for speakers with limited English proficiency. After proclaiming that "English is so crazy it makes you want to cry," the book presents first the sounds of the English alphabet, then long and short vowels, a limerick for each of the five short vowels, and finally 22 tongue twisters. (LB) (Adjunct ERIC Clearinghouse on Literacy Education)

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English is Crazy

Limericks and Tongue Twisters for Short Vowels



by Rosanne Keller

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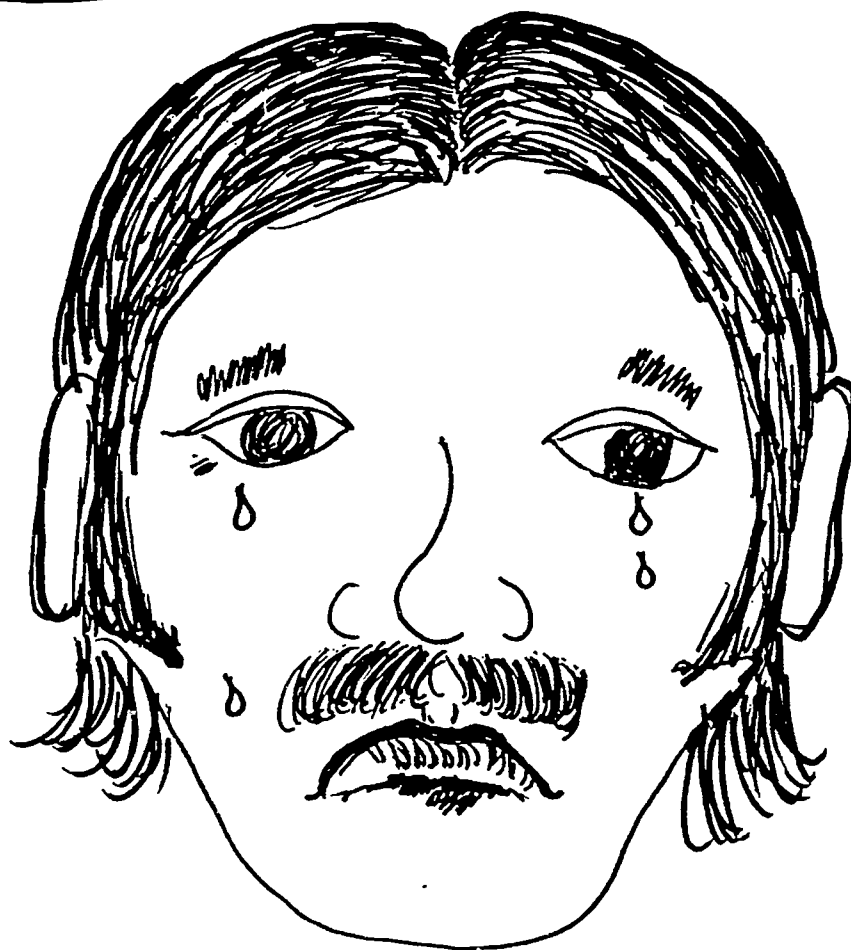
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English is so crazy
it makes you want to cry!





Sounds of the Alphabet

Alphabet

a

b

c

d

e

f

g

h

i

j

k

l

m

a - mat

a - date

a - (ah) father

a - sofa

b - baby

c - (k) come

c - (s) city

ch- chin

d - did

e - bed

e - feet

er- anger

f - five

g - get

h - had

h - (silent) honest

i - hit

i - side

ir- (er) sir

j - jet

k - kid

l - lot

m - mat

Alphabet

n

o

p

q

r

s

t

u

v

w

x

y

z

Sounds of the Alphabet

n - not
ng- ring

o - hot
o - bone
oi- (oy) coin, boy
oo- wood
oo- cool

p - pepper

r - red

s - sat
s - (z) raise
sh- shy

t - tin
th- they
th- thing

u - up
u - cute

v - very

w - was
wh- (hw) where

y - (ee) yard

z - zoo
zh- azure

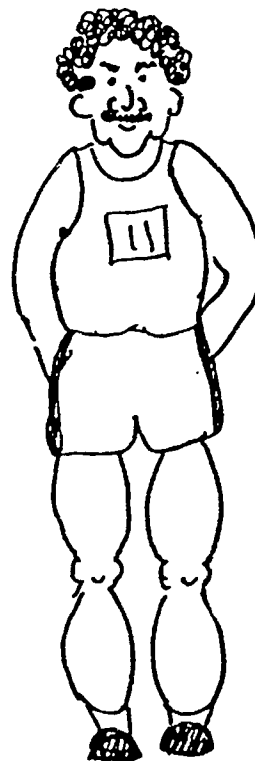
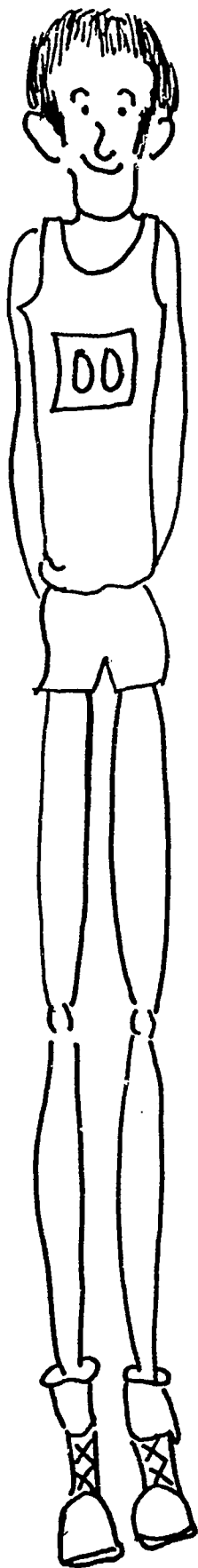


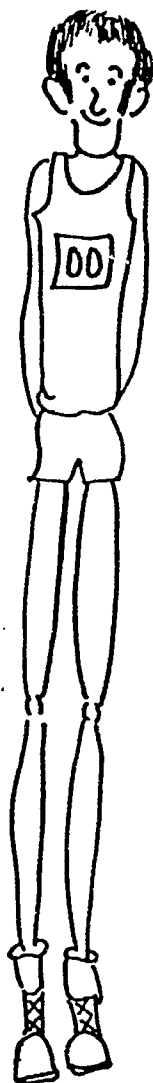
Vowels

Long

and

Short





Long Vowels

| | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| a | as in | paper |
| e | as in | we |
| i | as in | ice |
| o | as in | go |
| u | as in | pupil |

Short Vowels

| | | | | |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|
| a | becomes | → ^u _a | as in | apple |
| e | becomes | → ^u _e | as in | egg |
| i | becomes | → ^u _i | as in | it |
| o | becomes | → ^u _o | as in | hot |
| u | becomes | → ^u _u | as in | up |





Short Vowel a

a-a-a-a-a

Short Vowel a with other letters

ap___ at___ ab___

ad___ af___ am___

an___ av___ ag___

Short Vowel a in words

fat___

rat___

Matt___

pat___

sat___

black___

cat___

bat___

jab___

dab___

tack___

back___

mat___

dab___

lab___



Short Vowel e

e-e-e-e-e

Short Vowel e with other letters

ep___ et___ eb___

ed___ ef___ em___

en___ ev___ eg___

Short Vowel e in words

red___

wet___

net___

neck___

let___

never___

hen___

fell___

get___

tell___

set___

clever___

Nell___

well___

peck___

beg___

wed___

stead___



Short Vowel i

i-i-i-i-i

Short Vowel i with other letters

ip___ it___ ib___

id___ if___ im___

in___ iv___ ig___

Short Vowel i in words

Bill___

fibber___

tip___

bibber___

dishes___

miss___

Wills___

libber___

filled___

this___

wishes___

glib___

sip___

brim___

kiss___

hip___



Short Vowel o

o-o-o-o-o

Short Vowel o with other letters

op___ ot___ ob___
 od___ of___ om___
 on___ ov___ og___

Short Vowel o in words

jogged___
 Tom___
 sock___
 got___
 jock___
 rot___
 togs___

top___
 got___
 stop___
 boppeu___
 hot___
 holler___
 hock___

dock___
 rocks___
 sob___
 gob___
 drop___
 aplomb___
 shop___



Short Vowel u

u-u-u-u-u

Short Vowel u with other letters

up___ ut___ ub___

ud___ uf___ um___

un___ uv___ ug___

Short Vowel u in words

dumb___

fluff___

stuck___

chewing___

luck___

result___

hum___

duck___

muck___

fuzz___

buff___

hugged___

funny___

gum___

huff___

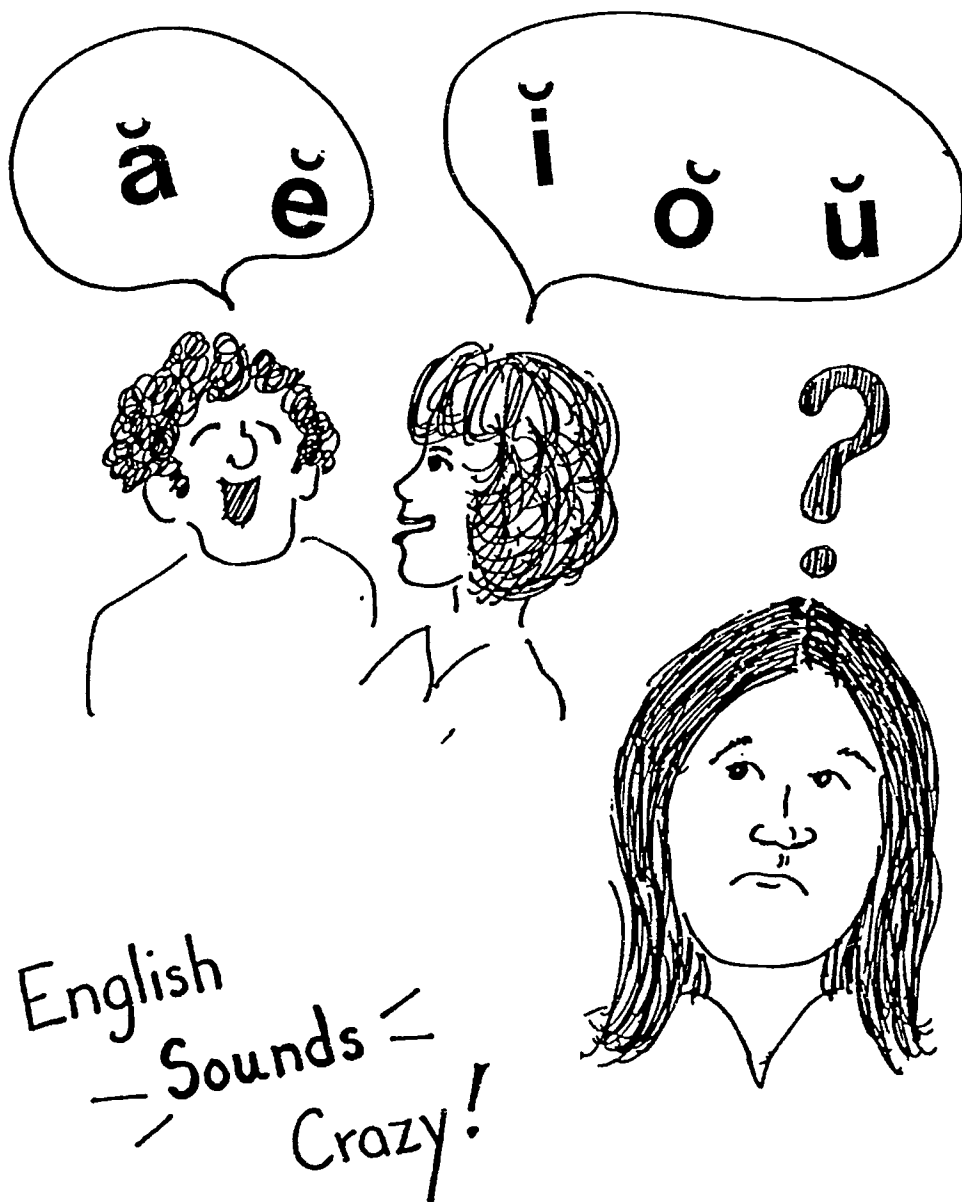
buzz___

struck___

up___

sunny___

Limericks



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There was once a fat rat named Matt.
And a black cat who had a big bat.
The rat put a tack
When the cat turned his back
On the mat where the black cat sat.

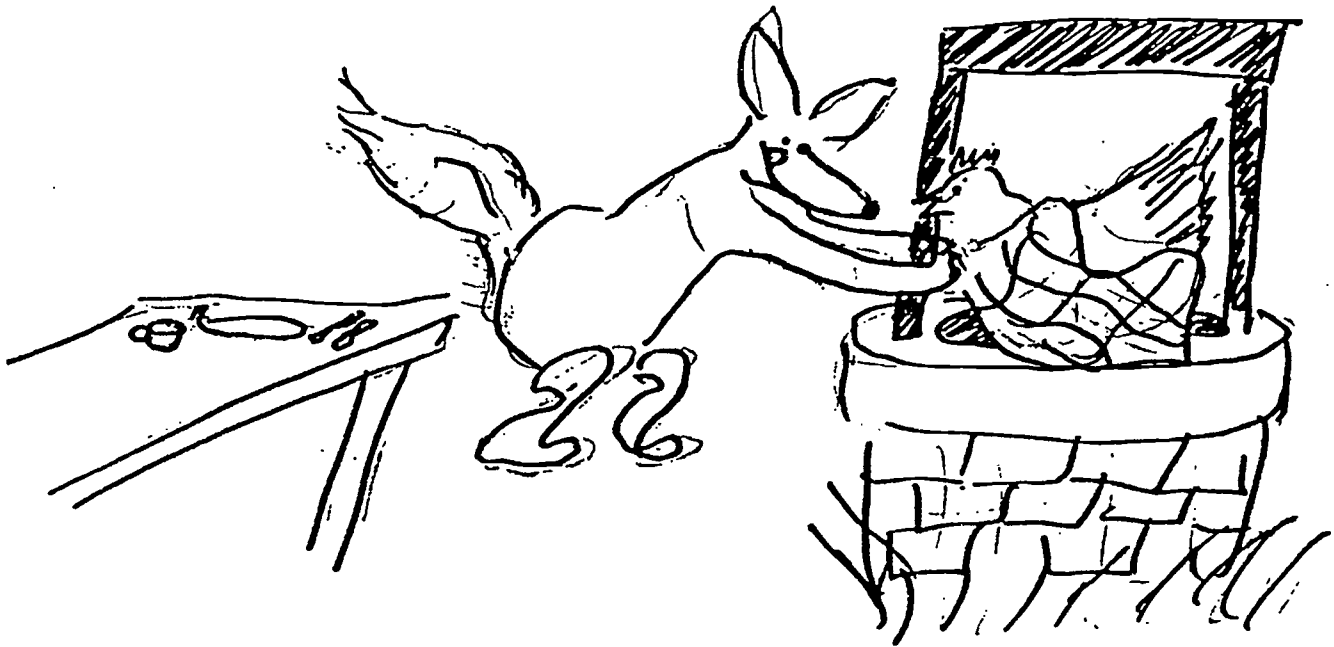
The cat gave his bat a big pat,
and sat down to observe the fat rat.
He leaned back a dab
And got a bad jab
And Matt the fat rat got a laugh!



e

There was once a red hen named Nell,
Who got wet when she fell in a well.
Fred fox got a net,
Pulled her out just to get
A wet peck on the neck...we hear tell.

Fred begged Nell to be his...so he said.
And he let her get set to be wed.
But the wedding was never
Because foxes are clever.
She was found on his table instead!



Bill Wills is a very glib fibber.
 And his girl is a big womens' libber.
 He tells of a sip,
 But she knows from a tip
 That he's filled to the brim, the wine bibber!

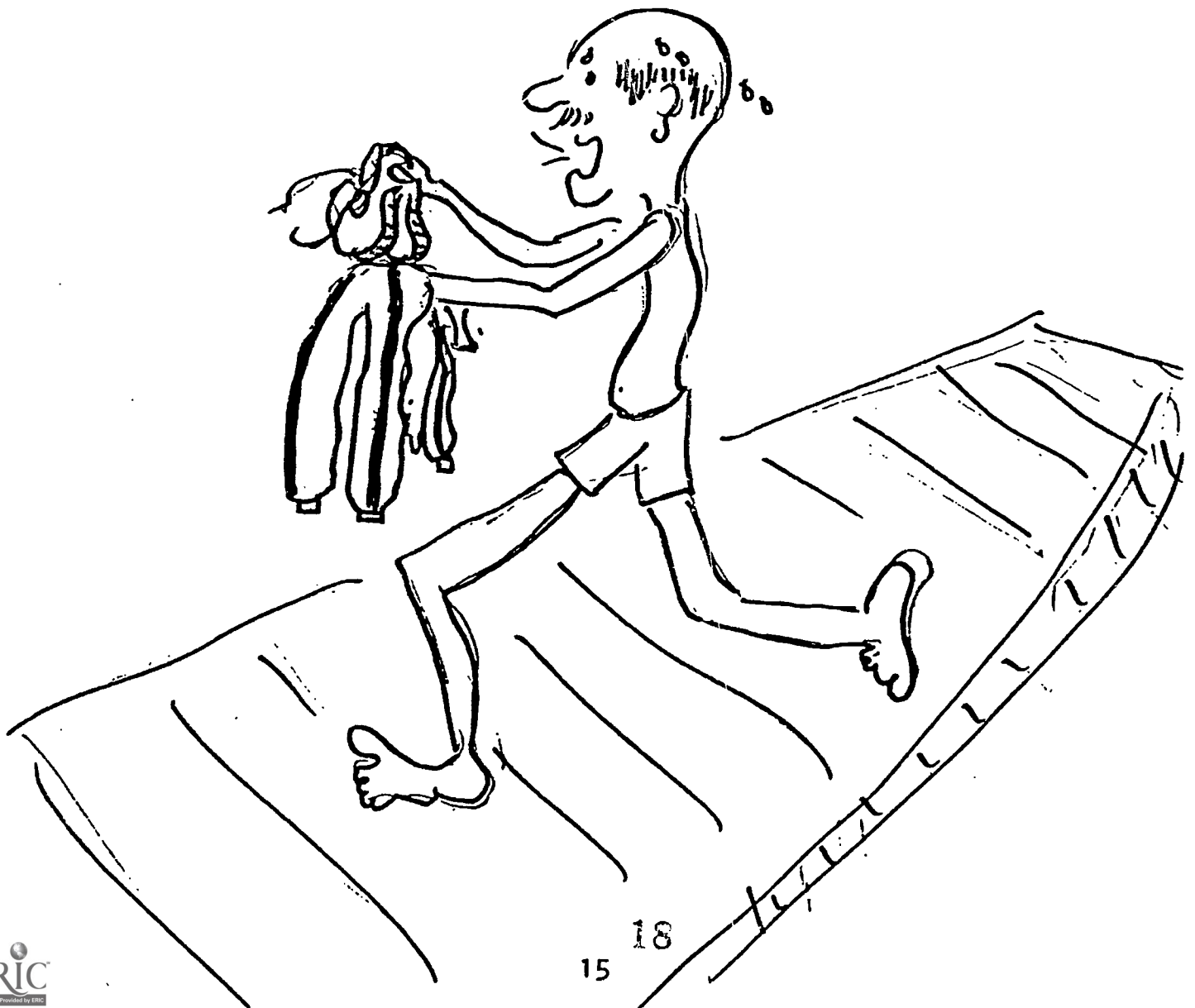
Bill's girl has a plan...it is this...
 She goes off to work with a kiss.
 Then Bill does the dishes
 And sometimes he wishes
 His girl wasn't such a hip miss!



Ö

As he jogged on the top of the dock,
Tom got some rocks in his sock.
He stopped with a sob,
Got out rocks by the gob
Then bopped on down the dock like a jock.

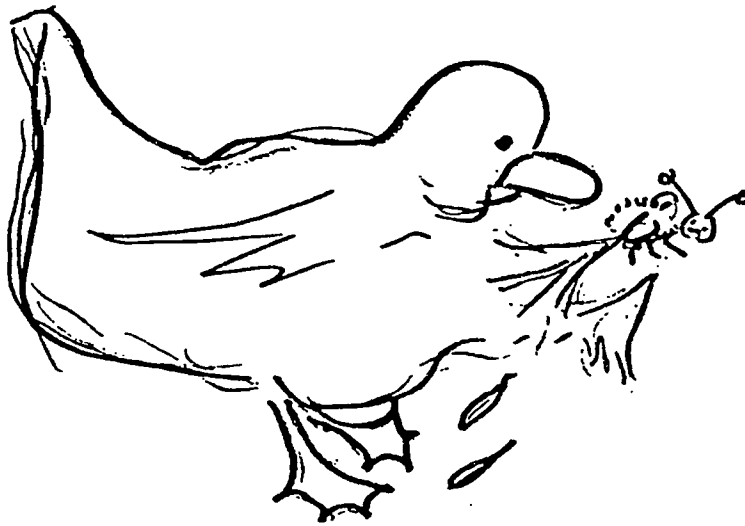
The dock it was hot up on top.
And Tom thought that he surely would drop.
"This is rot," hollered Tom.
And he turned with aplomb...
Dropped his jogging togs at a hock shop!



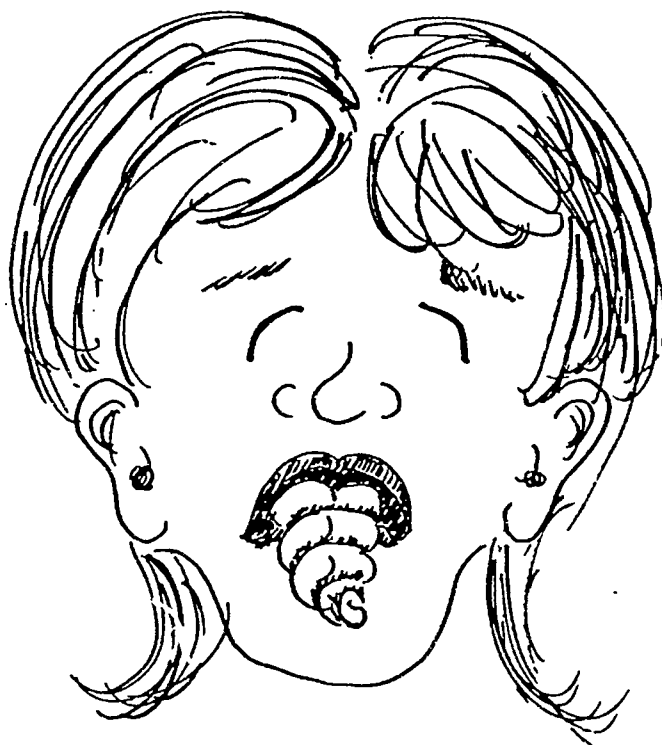
u

A dumb duck got some gum in his fluff.
The muck put the duck in a huff.
A bee eyed the stuck fuzz,
Pulled the gum with a buzz.
For the bee was a chewing gum buff.

The bee, quite struck with his luck,
Buzzed down and hugged up the duck.
The result wasn't funny
For when dark or when sunny,
The hum of the bee is gummed up.



Tongue Twisters



Tongue Twisters

1. The sixth sheep is sick.
2. Grow green Greek grapes.
3. Top truck traffic trap.
4. A kiss may be amiss
But a miss who misses kisses
May miss being a Mrs.
5. Fred fries five flying fish.
6. A cup of coffee in a copper coffee pot.
7. She sells seashells by the seashore.
8. A big black bug bit a big black bird.
9. Thin sticks, thick bricks.
10. Water is wetter in winter weather.
11. Sixty-six chicks are sick.
12. A quick slick kick or a slick quick kick?
13. A big blue barrel of big blue blueberries.
14. Rubber baby buggy bumpers.
15. Is the watch shop shut?
16. He threw thirty-three thumbtacks.
17. Does this shop sell socks with spots?
18. Kiss her quickly, then quicker.
19. The rat ran into the river with the liver.
20. Children should choose cheese.
21. Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,
Where is the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?
22. How much wood would a woodchuck chuck,
If a woodchuck could chuck wood?